

Message Text

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. THE BELGIANS ON ANGOLA
2. ITALY: LEONE DISSOLVES PARLIAMENT
3. USSR: WILL NEW DEFENSE CHIEF PUSH ARMS PRODUCTION?
4. USUN ON FOREIGN MINISTER BOYD

1. THE BELGIANS ON ANGOLA

EMBASSY BRUSSELS TRADED NOTES ON ANGOLA WITH A BELGIAN
FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL FRIDAY. IN THE BELGIAN VIEW:

--MINISTER ALVES MAY, IN THE LONG RUN, PROVE TO BE MORE
AFRICAN THAN COMMUNIST IN HIS OUTLOOK. ALTHOUGH HE IS
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 105935

NOW HEWING CLOSER TO MOSCOW'S LINE, HE HAS NOT MODERATED

HIS RACIST, ANTI-MULATTO ATTITUDES.

--ALVES' ATTITUDES PROBABLY POSE A DILEMMA FOR THE SOVIETS, BECAUSE THE MULATTOS ARE THE ONLY REALLY DOCTRINAIRE TRAINED MARXISTS IN AFRICA.

--THE ANGOLANS CANNOT DO WITHOUT CONTINUING CUBAN SUPPORT; THE MPLA HAS FEW EXPERIENCED PERSONNEL AND ITS INTERNAL DIVISIONS ARE BARELY SUBMERGED.

ONE INITIAL BELGIAN HYPOTHESIS--SINCE PROVEN FAULTY--WAS THAT PRESSURE FROM OTHER AFRICAN STATES FOR REMOVAL OF THE CUBANS WOULD MOUNT ONCE THE SOUTH AFRICANS PULLED OUT OF ANGOLA. SINCE THIS PRESSURE DID NOT MATERIALIZE, THE BELGIANS NOW THINK THAT AFRICAN STATES LOOK ON THE CUBANS AS AN INTERNAL ANGOLAN MATTER. ACCORDINGLY, IN THE BELGIAN VIEW, CONTINUED WESTERN STRESS ON THE CUBAN PRESENCE IN ANGOLA WOULD BE SEEN AS MEDDLING IN AN INTERNAL AFFAIR.

2. ITALY: LEONE DISSOLVES PARLIAMENT

FOLLOWING TRADITIONAL PRACTICE, PRESIDENT LEONE YESTERDAY DISSOLVED PARLIAMENT IN PREPARATION FOR ELECTIONS JUNE 20-21. EMBASSY ROME SAYS THE IMMEDIATE EFFECT OF THE DISSOLUTION IS TO DEFER THE ABORTION REFERENDUM UNTIL NEXT YEAR. ALTHOUGH THE PARLIAMENT IS FORMALLY DISSOLVED, THE PRESENT LEGISLATURE RETAINS ITS POWERS TO FULFILL CERTAIN CONSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES, INCLUDING APPROVAL OF DECREE LAWS, UNTIL THE NEW PARLIAMENT MEETS.

3. USSR: WILL NEW DEFENSE CHIEF PUSH ARMS PRODUCTION?

DISSIDENT PETER GRIGORENKO HAS EXPRESSED HIS DIS-APPOINTMENT TO EMBASSY MOSCOW OVER USTINOV'S APPOINTMENT AS DEFENSE MINISTER, AND UNDERLINED THE APPOINTEE'S EXPERTISE IN NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY AS AN INDICATION OF GREATER MILITARY EMPHASIS ON ADVANCED ARMAMENTS. ACCORDING TO THE FORMER MAJOR GENERAL:

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 105935

--THE APPOINTMENT WAS "THE EASY WAY OUT" FOR THE POLITBURO, WHICH AVOIDED CHOOSING ONE MILITARY MAN OVER ANOTHER.

--THOUGH USTINOV WAS FORMERLY IN DEFENSE PRODUCTION, THE "FREEMASONRY" OF THE GENERALS COULD BE ASSURED OF HIS DEVOTION TO MILITARY INTERESTS.

GRIGORENKO ALSO SAID USTINOV'S SELECTION ENABLED THE POLITBURO TO DEFER A DECISION ON WHETHER A MILITARY MINISTER OF DEFENSE SHOULD BE A POLITBURO MEMBER.

4.USUN ON FOREIGN MINISTER BOYD

USUN SAYS ITS EXPERIENCE WITH PANAMANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER BOYD OVER THE YEARS LEADS IT TO A PESSIMISTIC ASSESSMENT OF HIS PROBABLE IMPACT ON US-PANAMANIAN RELATIONS.

--AS AN UPPER-CLASS PANAMANIAN, BOYD MUST CONSTANTLY POLISH HIS ULTRANATIONALISM TO KEEP TORRIJOS' FAVOR.

--HE IS OBSESSED BY THE CANAL ISSUE AND TENDS TO BECOME HYSTERICAL UNDER PRESSURE.

--BOYD ENGINEERED THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL IN PANAMA IN 1973, AND USUN IS WORRIED THAT HE MAY TRY THE SAME TACTIC AGAIN.

THE MISSION COMMENTS THAT THE US CAN EXPECT BOYD TO STEER A COURSE IN THE UN DIRECTED AT GAINING MAXIMUM SUPPORT FOR PANAMA ON THE CANAL ISSUE. WHILE MISSION OFFICERS HAVE SOUGHT TO CONVINCE HIM THAT PATIENT, CALM BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS ARE THE BEST WAY TO WIN OVER THE SENATE, THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT HE EVER UNDERSTOOD THE POINT. SISCO

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